

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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RAILROAD MEN DISFRANCHISED

EMPLOYEES of railroads under government control without any excuse or palliation suddenly find themselves deprived of the inalienable rights of American citizens. Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, heir apparent to the White House, has had a remarkable change of heart by which he finds it necessary to place railroad employees in a class by themselves which should earn the eternal reprobation of every honest American. Without assigning any reason and, supposedly, working out a theory of his own, this pretence railroad operator menaces the entire political fabric of the country by decreeing that railroad employees shall not take an active part in politics. It is not sufficient to ordain that they shall not hold any active positions in the gift of their parties such as chairman of either precinct, ward or state bodies forming the fundamental bulwark of our liberties. The discrimination is all the more distinctive since the order does not apply to any other class of government employees. No one can tell why the railroad man should be singled out from millions of other workers for the administration and a penalty placed upon freedom of action in political matters. Under the ruling it becomes impossible for a railroad man to aspire to any office above school trustee and such a thing as hoping to attain the honor and dignity of a regent of the university is classified with what a previous president described as pernicious activity. Mr. McAdoo is at the head of the treasury department whose employees have always been among the most active in every political campaign without thought of incurring the displeasure of their chief. Here in Nevada one does not have to go far to find examples of treasury appointees working tooth and toenail for the administration but coming out openly and presiding at meetings and leading street parades. This was manifest at the last presidential election when it is a notorious fact that almost every railroad employee at Sparks had been canvassed ahead of election day and his vote assured for the Wilson ticket. There is no fault to find with that circumstance for it was the offspring of industrial conditions in which the administration had pledged itself to a material advance in the wages of the organized employees. That of itself was sufficient incentive to bring these men into the Democratic fold, but why these same men who did valiant service in that campaign, should be ostracized and alienated from the exercise of the rights of franchise is past understanding. Strict interpretation of the order providing it is carried out to the letter, implies that a railroad man in the government service must sign away his political rights and neither by words nor example furnish any pretext for suspecting that he is in politics.

Under the circumstances it becomes a problem what is going to happen in the cases of railroad towns such as Sparks, Carlin, Winnemucca, Montello or Elko when it comes to electing a town board or other body of citizens for local government. In several of these places the majority of the voters are directly engaged in railroading and, when these are eliminated, political control must necessarily fall to a class of men who thrive on the earnings of the railroad men. The merchant, businessman, lawyer or storekeeper is given a preferential rating in the contest for offices and the wage-earner who happens to draw pay from a railroad is precluded from taking any active part in organizing the machinery of government for the protection of his own property or improvement of his environment.

It is not right that such discrimination should exist. The railroad man is entitled to his vote and a voice in public affairs as other citizens and, if he is deprived of this right, the effect will be to induce self respecting employees to seek other avenues of industry which will not place him under a ban when it comes to deciding on candidates who are to run for office.

UNCLE SAM'S ANSWER TO THE HUNS

NEXT Thursday Tonopah will witness such an outpouring of patriotic citizens as it never had before for the reason that a majority of our people will be called to register for selective service under the draft law. Registration does not carry with it the necessity for going to war but it is an essential measure on which to base the man power of the country in organizing an army of five million men to prove to the world that Uncle Sam means business whenever he undertakes to do anything. The job has to be done well if done at all and the quicker the game is played to a finish the quicker we will see our boys back home and business restored to normal lines. Men engaged actively in mining industries are exempt from conscription so long as they remain in such employment but, under the draft law, as soon as a man quits such essential employment he may be called to the colors without more ado.

RAIDING THE SLACKERS

SENATOR SMOOT may have some good reason for impugning the motives of the officers engaged in conducting slacker raids in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and other congested centers but it is not clear to a man on the outside what fault can be found with any body engaged in rooting out of their hiding places the thousands of skulkers who are seeking to avoid military service. The fact that thousands of these fugitives have been found amenable to military law should be deemed sufficient justification for the raids but, evidently, somebody in power has had his pet corn trampled on by the action of the department of justice. No true patriot can find fault with the government for insisting that every man of draft age shall do his full duty to his country without regard to wealth, station or affiliation. If any favoritism is shown the whole draft structure is liable to collapse for its success up to date is due to the fact that it is enforced without any partiality. Any wavering from these strict lines will encourage resistance and foment rebellion.

General Crowder sums up the benefits of these raids in a comprehensive summary from which a few facts are gleaned for the information of readers of the Bonanza:

It is estimated that between 20,000 and 25,000 have been

rounded up since June 5, 1917. The names of others not yet apprehended, because of absence from the country, are in possession of the government, and prosecution faces any one of them who, having fled the country to escape the draft, attempts to return.

General Crowder revealed that the department of justice has on file the names of 5000 slackers who fled to Mexico before June 5, 1917, to escape registration. The present whereabouts of these slackers in Mexico is known and they are being closely watched.

Among the "slackers" raids" General Crowder made particular reference to the arrest at Chicago July 11, last, of 300 actual deserters who were turned over to military authorities, and 4000 delinquents who had failed to file questionnaires.

Santa Claus is coming this year as usual according to a recent order amending a previous notice that there would be no joy for kiddies on Christmas day. The good old saint is coming out in second hand clothes as his pack will be filled with gifts made from cast off apparel revamped by nimble needlewomen.

It is too bad that Bill Haywood was six stories above the explosion in Chicago when the bomb went off. Closer proximity might have spared the country the expense of a long prison sentence.

Berlin editors are beginning to show the effects of brainstorm engendered by their efforts to explain the strategy of the masterly retreats of the German army which is losing from 4000 to 5000 soldiers prisoners every day.

In reading over the thousands of foreign names in the roster of the American army England is beginning to believe that this is not such an Anglo-American nation as the British orators have been painting it.

American airmen are getting in their deadly lies behind the lines and leaving the mopping up for the army that is steadily driving on to Berlin.

Since the government has cut down the production of high priced cars there will be no trouble in explaining to your neighbor why you cling to the little old flivver.

Oregon, Idaho and Montana have given up their law schools during the war. This is a sacrifice that will be appreciated by a long suffering and patient public.

The dachshund is the nearest approach to a yellow dog in this country.

BOMBING BECOMES A SCIENCE WHERE SHOTS SELDOM MISS

(Correspondence Associated Press)

BEHIND THE BRITISH LINES

IN FRANCE, Aug. 26.—Aerial bombing is today far more of an exact science than was supposed possible a year and a half ago. In the early days of the war, dropping bombs was largely a matter of luck, and the straight eye of the aviator was the only factor relied upon for success.

Today, however, matters are entirely different. Accurate bomb sights have been produced which, carefully used, are a guarantee of the bomb falling on the object aimed at, within a very small margin of error. Of course, in the case of all such instruments, the human element is sometimes responsible for errors of calculation, and a small error on a bomb sight at 15,000 feet will send a bomb far out of its course. In the words of an American aviator who has done some splendid raiding work in France: "It is wonderful what you can miss with a bomb."

From this it must not be thought that the majority of allied bombs do not reach their billets in Germany or in the German lines; for aerial photographs taken after raids have shown that they do. But emphasis is laid on the importance of the personal factor in bombing. In the excitement of work of this kind—often in the midst of heavy shell fire—a very cool head is required to manipulate an instrument as delicate as a bomb sight. British airmen, for example, receive a very thorough training in bombing before they are allowed to proceed overseas, and must obtain a certain number of hits before they can graduate.

It is thought that quite a lot of the wanton and useless destruction of private property in England by German raiders is due to sheer bad bombing. Undoubtedly the central powers are behind the allies in regard to bombing gear, for on a large German twin-engined airplane re-

On the Channel Patrol.

"The weather round about here has been too damnable for words lately, and life on a patrol boat has been no cinch. Came down harbor yesterday in a regular blizzard—could barely see fifty yards ahead at times, about three inches of snow all over the ship—freezing like the devil. There's an infernal no'westerly wind blowing, and this pocket rolls about like a sick-head-ache. It's no joke monkeying about in a tiny craft of this size, hunting 'tin fishes.' In daylight it's bad enough, but at night it's extremely dangerous, as one can't see the seas and one's liable to half swamp one's self in turning. And as far as any comfort below goes, there isn't any. Everything is damp and cold, and the steward loses the greater part of your food in bringing it to you, and what you finally receive is a cold unpalatable mess. Yet by Heaven! it's something to be out here having a chance to bag a bally German swine."—Atlantic Magazine.

ENGLISH WANT U. S. TO ENLIVEN WAR REPORTS

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, Sept. 6.—Will not

America set the example and live up official communiques, asks the Manchester Guardian.

The paper quotes a report on the recent Australian success which left the Germans "still wondering just what was happening" and congratulates the writer on his information "that it certainly looks as though the Australians have the village plucked out."

The Guardian considers the American official reports have been, so far as an American twist to the language is concerned, a dismal disappointment and have conformed to

the unflattering style of the British official.

"It is perhaps too much," the paper continues, "to hope that we shall learn of an American success in the information that our allies 'handed the Prussian guard a horrid jolt,' or that their attack was pre-empted with a bombardment of an intensity which 'blistered reality.' But at least there is room for official and unofficial reports which shall strike away from the too familiar jargon that reduces them all to the same level, and live up our number of consciousness with a use of English which shows some imagination. Will not America set the merry example?"

GEN. FOCH DEVELOPS NEW STYLE ATTACK

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Sept. 6.—Marshal

Foch is credited by some of the German newspapers with adopting a "new method of defense learned from Hindenburg." The allied commander is said by the German correspondent of the Berlin Vorwaerts to have applied the method to the defensive fighting just before the great allied offensive began at the Marne salient in July.

The method is described as a with-

drawal of troops from the first line and placing the main force on the second line. This weakened the effect of the German artillery.

"Enemy batteries were in such deep formation," writes the Vorwaerts' correspondent, "that their barrage struck the German attack not in front of the first line but only in front of the second line. This defensive action, learned from Hindenburg, naturally demands a new method of attack which will not be long in coming."

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